

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 EB-11 COME-00 AID-20 IGA-02

SCEM-02 COA-02 DRC-01 AGR-20 /184 W

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R 102116Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8388

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, MX

SUBJ: FLOOD CONTROL WORKS IN THE LOWER RIO GRANDE
VALLEY.

REF: DEPARTMENT'S A-7289; SHANKLE/ESTEP LETTERS OF
SEPT. 28 AND OCT. 4.

1. POLITICAL COUNSELOR INTERVIEWED AMBASSADOR LUIS
CABRERA TODAY CONCERNING SUBJECT AND EMBASSY NOTE
NO. 1275. IT BECAME CLEAR CABRERA HAS NO REAL OBJECT-
TION TO LANGUAGE OF NOTE, ALTHOUGH HE DID COMMENT
THAT "AIR" OF NOTE GAVE IT TONE OF RECLAMA.

2. GIST OF CABRERA'S POSITION WAS THAT SUBJECT OF
FLOOD CONTROL LOWER RIO GRANDE HAS LONG BEEN UNDER
CONSIDERATION BY IBWC, IS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION AND
PROBLEM IS BEING ADDRESSED AND PARTIALLY SOLVED BY
CONSTRUCTION OF RETAMAL DAM. HE ADDED THAT FARMERS
WHO TILL IN FLOOD PLAIN AREA ARE FULLY AWARE OF RISKS,
WITH IMPLICATION THAT THEY ACCEPT INEVITABILITY OF
OCCASIONAL ECONOMIC LOSS. PRINCIPAL POINT CABRERA MADE
WAS THAT THIS ISSUE FULLY WITHIN COMPETENCE OF IBWC, IS
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UNDER CONSIDERATION AND HOPEFULLY ON WAY TO PARTIAL SOLUTION,

AND THAT FOR FOREGOING REASONS BOTH HE AND COMMISSIONER HERRERA JORDAN WERE SURPRISED THAT EMBASSY NOTE 1275 SUBMITTED AT ALL. HE SAID HE DID NOT CONSIDER LANGUAGE OF NOTE OFFENSIVE. IF SO, HE WOULD HAVE REQUESTED ITS WITHDRAWAL.

3. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE SEE NO POINT IN WITHDRAWING NOTE AND SUBMITTING REVISED VERSION. IN LIGHT OF CABRERA'S REMARKS SUBMISSION OF NEW NOTE MIGHT WELL GIVE OFFENSE SINCE HE AT LEAST FEELS NO NOTE REQUIRED.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION ON RELATION RETAMAL DAM TO SUBJECT ISSUE AND FURTHER GUIDANCE THIS SUBJECT. IF PRIMARY AIR IN SENDING NOTE WAS TO PRESENT U.S. VIEWS FOR THE RECORD, THIS ACCOMPLISHED. CABRERA GAVE NO INDICATION AS TO WHEN OR WHETHER RESPONSE TO NOTE WOULD BE MADE.
MCBRIDE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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